

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 00603 081257Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /022 W
-----081258Z 071407 /46

R 080900Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6055
INFO COMMANDANT, NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE, WASHDC
JCS
OASD/ISA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 0603

E.O. 11652: GDSHRTAGS: OTRA, MILI, AG
SUBJECT: NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE VISIT TO ALGERIA: NWC NO. 11

REF: STATE 49058

1. I RASIED PROPOSED NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE VISIT
(NWC NO. 11) WITH MOHAMED ABERKANE, CHIEF OF NORTH
AMERICAN AND WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AT FONMIN, DURING
MARCH 7 DISCUSSION.

2. ABERKANE RESPONDED "WHY NOT?" HE NOTED THAT PROPSD
TIMING OVER ALGERIAN WEEKEND WAS IMPOSSIBLE; PER PARA 18
OF REFTEL I SAID I THOUGHT SCHEDULE COULD BE ADJUSTED.
HE SAID THAT IF VISIT COULD OCCUR IN MIDDLE OF ALGERIAN
WORK WEEK HE FORESAW NO PROBLEM IN SETTING UP SCHEDULE.

3. I DESCRIBED TO HIM INTERESTS OF GROUP, STRESSING
DESIRE THAT SENIOR LEVEL ACCESS BE MAINTAINED. HE
SUGGESTED THAT WE REQUEST CALLS ON PRESIDENT (AND DEFENSE
MINISTER) BOUMEDIENE, ASSISTANT SEC GEN PRESIDENCY HAMDANI,
SEC GEN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE LATRECHE, AND SEC GEN
FONMIN BENHABYLES (FORMIN BOUTEFLIKA NORMALLY SEES
ONLY VISITING CHIEFS OF STATE).

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PAGE 02 ALGIER 00603 081257Z

4. HE PROPOSED THAT WE SUBMIT DIPLOMATIC NOE
INFORMING GOA OF VISIT, LISTING INDIVIDUALS WITH WHOM
GROUP WOULD LIKE APPOINTMENTS, LISTING MEMBERS OF
DELEGATION, AND GIVING TIMEFRAME. HE SAID THAT ONCE
FONMIN HAD NOTE IT WOULD BEGIN ARRANGING PROGRAM.

5. COMMENT: ABERKANE'S RECEPTIVENESS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED

US AND WE HAVE TO WONDER IF GOA UPPER LEVELS AND
MILITARY WILL VIEW VISIT IN SAME POSITIVE LIGHT. WE
DO NOT RECALL SUBSTANTIVE CONTACT WITH LATRECHE SINCE
AMBASSADOR PARKER'S COURTESY CALL OF FEBRUARY 19, 1975;
EMBASSY CONTACTS WITH OTHER ALGERIAN MILITARY NONGAEXISTENT.
FRENCH AND GERMAN MILITARY ATTACHES BELIEVE LAST VISIT
OF THIS SORT FROM WESTERN COUNTRY WAS LESS THAN SUCCESSFUL
1973 BRITISH IMPERIAL WAR COLLEGE VISIT.

6. THUS, DESPITE ABERKANE'S FORTHCOMING RESPONSE, WE
BELIEVE THAT NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE SHOULD BE PREPARED
FOR POSSIBILITY OF LAST MINUTE BREAKDOWN IN ARRANGEMENTS
REQUIRING GROUP TO SKIP ALGERIA ALTOGETHER AND LESS THAN
SENIOR-LEVEL ACCESS ONCE IT HERE. ALGERIANS NEVER
CEASE TO SURPRISE US, HOWEVER, AND IF VISIT WERE TO COME
OFF SUCCESSFULLY IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL FOR EMBASSY
IN TERMS OF ACCESS AND AS DEMONSTRATION OF US-ALGERIAN
CORDIALITY. ABERKANE PLUGGED INTO GOA ATTITUDES,
AND HE ARRANGED SUCCESSFUL VISIT OF WHITE HOUSE
FELLOWS LAST YEAR.

7. IF NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE PREPARED RUN ABOVE RISKS,
PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH LIST OF MEMBERS OF NWC NO. 11
AND NEW TIMEFRAME. ONCE WE RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION
WE WILL SUBMIT DIPLOMATIC NOTE AND SET ALGERIAN MACHINERY,
UPON WHICH WE MUST RELY, IN MOTION.

8. PROJECT OFFICER FOR VISIT IS POLITICAL OFFICER
CHARLES F. DUNBAR.LYNE
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PAGE 03 ALGIER 00603 081257Z

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Message Attributes

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